

Good morning, Senator Doyle, Representative Walker and distinguished members of the Human Services Committee. I am here today to express opinion about H.B. 5243 An Act Concerning Sober Houses.

My name is Bill Ceravone and I have been in recovery for about a year. I am here today to express my concerns about this bill.

For my recovery I went to a town where I didn't know anyone coming to the conclusion that I needed to start my life over after 44 years with most of them living with addiction. In the process I was introduced to a wonderful lady who took interest in my life of recovery and this was the feeling of some one that didn't actually know me but believed in me. She knew I was leaving a treatment center and invited me to live in a sober living home which she runs. There are many houses in the town I live in but I made my choice to live in one of her houses because of the personal involvement she has with all her tenants. I can speak with her about any issues. It doesn't matter what they are, personal, financial etc. She always has time for any of us and I believe that if the legislature takes over, a system that is working, it is my belief that this wouldn't be personal it would be business please allow well enough alone.

If for some reason this becomes a law I believe any prior amendment would only make things more confusing and less people friendly.

I promised myself never to return to jail, please don't make my journey feel like I'm back in again.

Thank you for this opportunity.
William Ceravone